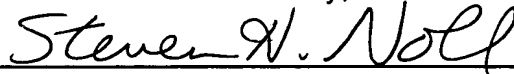


REMARKS:

The present Amendment presents a new set of claims conforming to the requirements of United States patent practice. No change in claim language between the original claims and the claims presented herein has
5 been made for distinguishing any claim over the teachings of the prior art of record. Accordingly, no change in the claim language is considered by the Applicants as a surrender of any of the subject matter encompassed within the scope of the original claims.

10 Early consideration of the application on the merits is respectfully requested.

Submitted by,



(Reg. 28,982)

Schiff, Hardin LLP

CUSTOMER NO. 26574

Patent Department

6600 Sears Tower

233 South Wacker Drive

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: 312/258-5790

Attorneys for Applicants.